

**President**

Jane Patton  
Mission College

May 6, 2011

**Vice President**

Michelle Pilati  
Rio Hondo College

Commission on Teacher Credentialing  
1900 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95811-4213

**Secretary**

Wheeler North  
San Diego Miramar College

Dear Commissioners:

**Treasurer**

Beth Smith  
Grossmont College

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges opposes the use of coursework by any provider that does not come from regionally accredited institutions for the purposes of granting Child Development Permits and/or Teacher Credentials in Early Childhood Education.

**Area A Representative**

Julie Bruno  
Sierra College

While we appreciate the need to increase the number of pathways by which candidates can become eligible to receive permits and/or credentials, allowing coursework from any provider other than accredited institutions undermines the rigor necessary to assure quality teachers for every child in California.

**Area B Representative**

Jon Drinnon  
Merritt College

**Area C Representative**

Lesley Kawaguchi  
Santa Monica College

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges represent the faculty on all 112 California community colleges on academic and professional matter as defined in Title 5 regulations. We are concerned that many students entering our community colleges are unprepared for college-level work. As such, we believe that reducing the standards for teacher credentials is the wrong direction to ensure our students are better prepared. The delegates on California's 112 community colleges passed the enclosed resolutions which detail our position on the use of coursework from schools not regionally accredited.

**Area D Representative**

Richard Mahon  
Riverside City College

**North Representative**

Dolores Davison  
Foothill College

**North Representative**

Dan Crump  
American River College

**South Representative**

Stephanie Dumont  
Golden West College

**South Representative**

David Morse  
Long Beach City College

**Representative at Large**

Kevin Bontenbal  
Cuesta College

As the adopted resolutions state, we ask that California State Department of Education include and rely primarily on the expertise and knowledge of the early childhood education/child development faculty of California community colleges in matters pertaining to the development of an early learning credential, preschool learning standards, and education of a workforce for a preschool.

**Representative at Large**

Dianna Chiabotti  
Napa Valley College

Thank you,

**Julie Adams, CAE**

Executive Director



Jane Patton  
President

/jaa  
Enclosures

**Academic Senate for California Community Colleges  
Adopted Resolutions regarding Early Childhood Education**

**9.03 Spring 2010**

Whereas, There are local agencies that propose to grant AA/AS degrees in early childhood education;

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges has passed resolutions that call on the California Department of Education to “rely primarily upon the expertise and knowledge of the Early Childhood Education/Child Development faculty of the California community colleges in matters pertaining to the development of an early learning credential, preschool learning standards, and education of a workforce for a universal preschool” (19.04 S06), to “rely upon the expertise of the Early Childhood Education/Child Development faculty of the California community colleges in the development of the early learning credential,” and to “strongly urge the California Department of Education to deploy newly created funds for program development, student support, and institutional support in direct proportion to the number of Early Childhood Education/Child Development students served by each of the CCC, CSU, and UC systems” (19.05 S06);

Whereas, The Early Learning Quality Improvement System (EL QIS) Advisory Committee, which was formed in response to the passage of SB1629 (2008), has been charged with developing the policy and implementation plan for California’s Early Learning Quality Improvement System, including a workforce development plan; and

Whereas, California community colleges are the entity designated with the authority to grant certificates and AA/AS degrees, and California community colleges’ Early Childhood Education/Child Development programs have been proactive in creating curricular alignment with four-year colleges through participation in the C-ID and Career Pathways projects and have been instrumental in helping increase early childhood program quality through collaboration with the Child Development Training Consortium, the California Mentor Teacher Program, and Baccalaureate Pathways in Early Care and Education;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges strongly oppose any attempt by any state agency other than existing, accredited institutions of higher education to offer unit-bearing courses toward child development permits and degrees; and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work to ensure that California community colleges continue to be the only public higher education entity to grant AA/AS degrees for the State of California and that the California community colleges remain the workforce pathway for early childhood teachers in this state.

**19.04 Spring 2006**

Whereas, The California community colleges have been the primary source of pre-service education for early childhood professionals; and

Whereas, The Early Childhood/Child Development faculty at California community colleges have expertise in this area;

Resolved; That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges call upon the California State Department of Education to include and rely primarily upon the expertise and knowledge of the Early Childhood Education/Child Development faculty of the California community colleges in matters pertaining to the development of an early learning credential, preschool learning standards, and education of a workforce for a universal preschool.